



University of Georgia graduate Sauleja Satkute returns to Lithuania this month to serve others.

A11

TUESDAY

Griffin boys, girls win season openers on the road. SPORTS, B1



The GRIFFIN DAILY NEWS

Toppan breaks ground



RAY LIGHTNER/DAILY NEWS

Moving sand indoors at the groundbreaking for Toppan USA's new 97,319-square-foot barrier film plant at The Lakes at Green Valley are Griffin Mayor Ryan McLemore, Spalding County Vice-Chairman Raymond Ray, Griffin-Spalding Development Authority Chairman Chuck Copeland, Toppan USA President Sumio Ezaki, Toppan Printing Company Vice President Yoshihiro Furuya, Kajima Corporation Executive Officer Shigeru Tomoda, Consul General Consulate-General of Japan in Atlanta Kazuo Sunaga and Director of International Investment Georgia Department of Economic Development Scott McMurray.

Griffin plant expected to start operation in March 2016

BY RAY LIGHTNER STAFF WRITER RAY@GRIFFINDAILYNEWS.COM

Toppan USA broke ground Monday on a 97,319-square-foot barrier film plant on two sites at The Lakes at Green Valley industrial park.

The voters of Spalding County were thanked during the ceremonies Monday for voting to approve the 2008 special purpose local option sales tax that included funding to purchase and creation of that eco-park. That "thank-you" was the first of a number of them from Griffin-Spalding Development Authority Chairman Chuck Copeland.

Griffin Mayor Ryan McLemore also thanked the county taxpayers for making "one of the best investments made," with The Lakes at Green Valley. McLemore noted with it, there would not be Monday's groundbreaking on "one of the largest capital investments in Spalding County in some time."



RAY LIGHTNER/DAILY NEWS

Part of the groundbreaking ceremonies Monday for Toppan USA was a kagami-biraki, or saki barrel opening, something done at weddings as the symbol of a new beginning. Participating were Toppan USA President Sumio Ezaki, Toppan Printing Company Vice President Yoshihiro Furuya, Kajima Corporation Executive Officer Shigeru Tomoda, Kajima USA President Noriaki Ohashi, Consul General Consulate-General of Japan in Atlanta Kazuo Sunaga, Director of International Investment Georgia Department of Economic Development Scott McMurray and Griffin Spalding Development Authority Chairman Chuck Copeland.

Sumio Ezaki thanked everyone involved and the "great deal of assistance from the people of Griffin and of Georgia." Ezaki said the facility would start operation in March 2016.

Copeland said it was a pleasure to have working with Ezaki for the past 12 months on the agreement and noted it had grown in scope and number of jobs, to a \$100 million investment and 80 jobs. He also thanked the state officials involved in the Georgia Department of Economic Development, "which was an important player in this project."

He also cited Georgia Quickstart, which provides free job training for industries, Georgia Power, which will be providing electricity to the site, and Kajima Building & Design Group, which will be building the facility for Toppan.

The ceremonies included the local, state and company officials "breaking ground" with shovels and hard hats, but due in part to the weather, digging into a pile of sand inside a large reception tent. Also part of the ceremony was a breaking of saki casks or

SEE TOPPAN/PAGE A2

Two injured in plane crash Saturday

BY RAY LIGHTNER STAFF WRITER RAY@GRIFFINDAILYNEWS.COM

Two people were injured in a plane crash Saturday morning at the Peach State Aerodrome.

Ron Alexander, owner of the airport, said "We are not certain what happened as of yet. The FAA is investigating the crash."

The airplane, a de Havilland Tiger Moth, "crashed in a field next to the museum building," Alexander said. "Pike County first responders were on the scene within a few minutes."

According to information from the Federal Aviation Administration, the aircraft crashed shortly after departure from the airport. Two people were injured with one listed as having serious injuries

SEE CRASH/PAGE A2

GDOT working on new lanes

STAFF REPORTS

Construction of the new Georgia Express Lanes on Interstate 75 will necessitate overnight lane closures from Monday night, Nov. 17, through Monday morning, Nov. 24, so that crews can place a protective barrier wall.

Weather permitting, the right outside lane and shoulder will be closed in two-mile increments beginning at Georgia Highway 155 and progressing through the week to Georgia Highway 138, from mile markers 216 to 228 in Henry County. The closure will be in place continuously until

SEE GDOT/PAGE A2

Spalding Regional Hospital recognized as 'Top Performer'

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Spalding Regional Hospital on Thursday announced it has been recognized as a 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures by The Joint Commission — the leading accreditor of health care organizations in the United States.

Spalding Regional was recognized as part of The Joint Commission's 2013 Annual Report, "America's Hospitals: Improving Quality

and Safety," for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care.

Spalding Regional is one of 1,224 hospitals in the United States to achieve the 2013 Top Performer distinction.

The Top Performer program recognizes hospitals for improving performance on evidence-based interventions that increase

the chances of healthy outcomes for patients with certain conditions, including heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care, children's asthma, stroke, venous thromboembolism and perinatal care, as well as for inpatient psychiatric services and immunizations.

To be a 2013 Top Performer, hospitals had to meet three performance criteria based on 2013

SEE HOSPITAL/PAGE A2



Spalding Regional Hospital has been named as a 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures by The Joint Commission — the leading accreditor of health care organizations in the United States.

FILE PHOTO

Inside

Table with 4 columns: Category, Page, Category, Page. Includes Abby (A10), Business (A6), Classifieds (B4), Comics (A8), Puzzles (A7,A8), Stocks (A6), Sports (B1), Scores (B2), Viewpoints (A4).

Deaths

- Mrs. Patti S. Crowder, George Patterson, Mrs. Ada Josephine Nelson, Mr. John Wesley Lewis



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OBITUARIES



Mrs. Patti S. Crowder

July 9, 1965 —
Nov. 17, 2014

Griffin resident

Mrs. Patti Smith Crowder, age 49 of Griffin, GA, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 17, 2014 at her residence surrounded by her family.

Mrs. Crowder was born on July 9, 1965. She is preceded in death by her father, Alfred Eugene Smith; grandmother, Annie Mae (Nannie) Smith; daughter, Misty Blevins. She attended North Griffin Congregational Holiness Church and West Sunnyside Community Church. She formerly worked at the Waffle House and the Lighthouse for many years. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, daughter, sister and friend to many who will forever treasure her memories.

Survivors include her husband, best friend and soul mate, Jason Crowder; children, Heather Voiles, Amber Cromer, Neely Spratlin, Cody and Tiffany Smith; a special grandchild, whom she was raising, Presley, other grandchildren are Hailey, Kailey, Dawson, Hunter, Haislynn, Sayla, Halo; great grandchildren, Landon and Haven; her mother, Bernice Jean George; sisters, Tracey and Eric Folsom, Tina and David Bradley, Fay Whitfield, Kay Rice; many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visitation for Mrs. Patti Smith Crowder will be on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm at Conner-Westbury Funeral Home. The funeral service will be conducted on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 3:00 pm in the chapel of Conner-Westbury Funeral Home. Reverend Gene Luke will officiate. Interment will follow in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Please join the family in honoring the life of Patti S. Crowder by visiting www.conner-westbury-funeralhome.com and posting your tributes and memories.

Conner-Westbury Funeral Home, 1891 West McIntosh Road, Griffin, GA is in charge of arrangements.

George Patterson

Died Nov. 13, 2014

George Patterson slipped quietly away Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 surrounded by family in Spalding Regional Hospital.

His family will honor his life and legacy privately.

He is survived by his wife, Linda C. Sykes-Patterson; children, Dod

Piotrowski, Angela Porter, Melissa Patterson, Jasmine Sykes, and Lawshaun Taylor; grandchildren, Madison, Lacey, Khloe, Christina, Brett, Cody, Parris, and Marcal; brothers, Malcomb, David, and William; sons-in-law, William Piotrowski, Thomas Porter Jr. and life partner Chrystal Hottle.

His parents, Paul and Ethel, preceded him in death.

"Though he may slay me, I will trust him." — Job 15:13

Another veteran gone home. Rest in peace.

The many blessings of you will remain in our hearts forever. Your loving family.



Mrs. Ada Josephine Nelson

Oct. 23, 1920 —
Nov. 11, 2014

Mrs. Ada Josephine Nelson passed away Nov. 11, 2014 at Spalding Regional Hospital at 9 p.m.

She was born in Carson, Iowa Oct. 23, 1920 to Orien and Edith Hodges.

Devoted wife and mother, Ada was preceded in death by sisters, Marie and Gladys; brother, Wayne; and Dr. Melvin R. Nelson, her husband of 67 years.

Survivors include children, Larry and Dennis Nelson, Marilyn (Peter) Droegmiller; grandchildren, Kristina, Amy, Rebecca, Julie (L-Nelson), Scott, Tami, Keri, Todd (M-Droegmiller); and 16 great-grandchildren.

Ada was a beautician in Ames, Iowa where she met and married Melvin in 1942. She served as office manager for husband 'Doc's veterinary practice in Marcus, Iowa while raising children, including piano lessons. Expert seamstress, baker (best cinnamon rolls and cookies!) In 1967, with the vet practice sold the couple moved four times for Doc's career with the USDA. In every new town Ada would join or start women's bridge and golf clubs. She attended Lutheran churches in Iowa, Illinois, California, Utah, Florida, and Georgia.

Memorial service will be at St. John Lutheran, 1689 MLK Parkway (19/41), Griffin, on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

DEATH NOTICES

Mr. John Wesley Lewis, 72, of Griffin, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014 at Brightmoor Hospice. Survivors and arrangements will be announced at a later date. Heritage Funeral Home, 1512 Williamson Road, Griffin, GA 30224 is in charge of arrangements. www.heritagehgriffin.com.

Missouri governor activates National Guard ahead of Brown case decision

BY DAVID A. LIEB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency Monday and activated the National Guard ahead of a grand jury decision about whether a white police officer will be charged in the fatal shooting of a black 18-year-old in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson.

Nixon said the National Guard would assist state and local police in case the grand jury's decision leads to a resurgence of the civil unrest that occurred in the days immediately after the Aug. 9 shooting of Michael Brown by Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson.

"All people in the St. Louis region deserve to feel safe in their communities and to make their voices heard without fear of violence or intimidation," Nixon said in a written statement.

There is no specific date for a grand jury decision to be revealed, and Nixon gave no indication that an announcement is imminent. But St. Louis County Prosecutor Bob McCulloch has said that he expects the grand jury to reach a decision in mid-to-late November.

The U.S. Justice Department, which is conducting a separate investigation, has not said when its work will be completed.

Before the shooting, Wilson spotted Brown and a friend walking in the middle of a street

and told them to stop, but they did not. According to a St. Louis Post-Dispatch report based on sources the newspaper did not identify, Wilson has told authorities he then realized Brown matched the description of a suspect in a theft minutes earlier at a convenience store. Wilson backed up his police vehicle and some sort of confrontation occurred before Brown was fatally shot. He was unarmed and some witnesses have said he had his hands up when he was killed.

Brown's shooting stirred long-simmering racial tensions in the St. Louis suburb, where two-thirds of the residents are black but the police force is almost entirely white. Rioting and looting a day after the shooting led police to respond to subsequent protests with a heavily armored presence that was widely criticized for continuing to escalate tensions. At times, protesters lobbed rocks and Molotov cocktails at police, who fired tear gas, smoke canisters and rubber bullets in an attempt to disperse crowds.

Nixon also declared a state of emergency in August and put the Missouri State Highway Patrol in charge of a unified local police command. Eventually, Nixon activated the National Guard to provide security

around the command center.

This time, Nixon said the St. Louis County Police Department would be in charge of a unified police command in Ferguson. The St. Louis city police and Missouri State Highway Patrol will help.

"All people in the St. Louis region deserve to feel safe in their communities and to make their voices heard without fear of violence or intimidation."

— Jay Nixon
Missouri governor

The governor did not indicate how many National Guard troops would be mobilized, instead leaving it to the state adjutant general to determine. Nixon said the National Guard would be available to carry out any requests made through the Highway Patrol to "protect life and property" and support local authorities. If the Guard is able to provide security at police and fire stations, then more police officers may be freed up to patrol the community, Nixon said.

St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay said Monday that he supports Nixon's decision to activate the Guard. He said the Guard "will be used in a secondary role" and could potentially be stationed at places such as shopping centers and government buildings.

"The way we view this, the Guard is not going to be confronting the protesters and will not be on (the) front line interacting directly with demonstrators," Slay said.

TOPPAN

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

"kagami-biraki," which signifies a new beginning and is a tradition at weddings.

The plant will be the first of its kind outside of Japan to make

the food packaging material, according to Kazou Sunaga, the consul general at the Consulate-General for Japan in Atlanta. He said the Japan is interested in not only growing industry but in growing partnerships, noting that Georgia is home to 580 Japan-

affiliated companies providing 30,000 jobs in the state.

County Commissioner Raymond Ray thanked Toppan for selecting Spalding County. "Welcome to Spalding County," Ray said, "you are no longer a partner, but a neighbor. Thank you

for choosing our community."

Ray pledged to support Toppan "through our school system, county and city," adding, "I want to welcome you home, welcome you to the South, and welcome you to Griffin, Georgia, and Spalding County."

HOSPITAL

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

accountability measure data, including achieving cumulative performance of 95 percent or above across all reported accountability measures; achieving performance of 95 percent or above on each and every reported accountability measure where there were at least 30 denominator cases; and having at least one

core measure set that had a composite rate of 95 percent or above, and (within that measure set) all applicable individual accountability measures had a performance rate of 95 percent or above.

"Delivering the right treatment in the right way at the right time is a cornerstone of high-quality health care. I commend the efforts of Spalding Regional for their excellent performance on the use of evidence-based interventions," said Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACP, M.P.P., M.P.H., presi-

dent and CEO, The Joint Commission.

"We understand what matters most to patients at Spalding Regional is the quality and safety of the care they receive. That is why we have made it a top priority to improve positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care processes," said John Quinn, CEO at Spalding Regional. "We are proud to be named a Top Performer as it recognizes the knowledge, teamwork and dedication of our entire hospital staff."

GDOT

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

next Monday morning, Nov. 24, from 9 p.m., each night to 5 a.m.

Motorists are advised to slow down and proceed with caution through this area; workers and heavy equipment will be in close proximity to the roadway.

The Georgia Department of Transportation also has routine maintenance activities planned for this week in several counties located across Central Georgia. Most activities will only require shoulder or median lane closures, between 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 17-21, weather permitting.

This is a tentative schedule; if emergency response is needed at a crash scene or if emergency repairs are necessary this schedule can change.

- In Spalding County, brush and tree cutting along Georgia Highway 16 at Cabin Creek Bridge;

- In Pike County, brush and tree cutting along Georgia Highways 109 and 36, with a single lane closure;

- In Lamar County, brush and tree cutting along Georgia Highway 36, with a single lane closure;

- In Butts County, brush and tree cutting along Georgia Highway 87 between mile markers 0-4, and along Georgia Highway 42 between mile markers 0-8;

- In Henry County, brush and tree cutting along Georgia Highway 42 between mile markers 0-11.

Flagmen may be used for this work. Motorists are asked to use caution, reduce their speed and be alert to changing traffic conditions in work zone.

CRASH

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

and the other with minor injuries. The plane was destroyed.

"Witnesses pulled the injured pilots from the wreckage," Alexander said. "One of the pilots was airlifted to Grady."

Alexander did not identify the either pilot, but said, "both pilots are

doing OK. One received minor cuts and the other is at Grady in stable condition."

The vintage aircraft — a de Havilland Tiger Moth DH82 — is a British World War II era single engine, fixed wing trainer. According to the N-number registration, the aircraft was manufactured in 1945 and the latest certificate, good for three years, had been issued in April.

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